

### Kotzebue Electric Association

- > Stand alone utility system
- Received our 1st REA Loan 1953
- First generated power in 1954
- First wind turbines operational in 1997
- > Started wind program to reduce diesel consumption

# Kotzebue, Alaska A Unique and Difficult Environment

- Low, flat terrain consisting of tundra and permafrost
- Annual average temperature -5.8° C (22° F)
- Average snowfall 127 cm (4.2 feet)
- Winter wind-chill temperatures reach -100° F
- Kotzebue Port is ice free for 3½ months

### KEA Wind Program

- 1991 Received a Research Grant from NRECA Rural Electric Research for Power Quality with Wind Resource (\$25,000)
- 1992 Established wind monitoring program using KEA and State Funding
- Could not find a company willing to work in the Arctic after several years found a Vermont company willing to work in Alaska (AOC)
- 1993 KEA Board Committed \$250,000 to develop a wind project

# Obstacles to Development

- Lack of adequate wind resource data
- Few manufacturers of wind equipment suitable for rural Alaska
- Lack of transmission to areas with good wind resource
- Transportation issues i.e. cost, remoteness
- Utility involvement
- Cold weather design features
- There was no supporting infrastructure
- Early equipment wasn't ready for Alaska

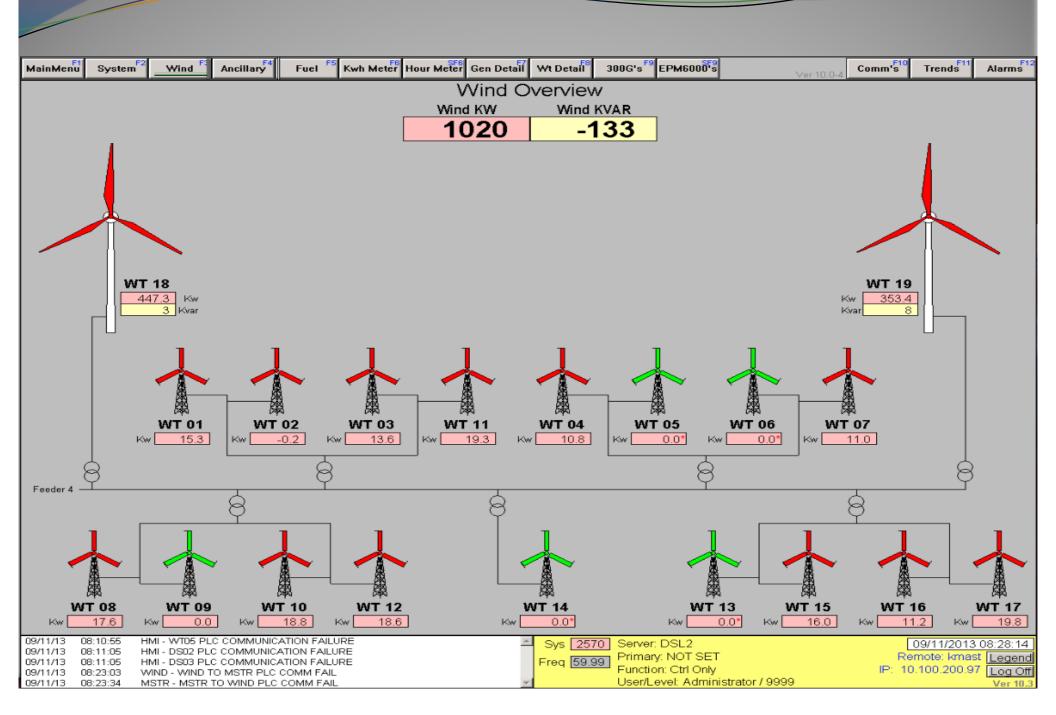
### KEA Wind Program

- 1993 State of Alaska committed a match to KEA funds,
   this gave us enough funding to buy 3 turbines
- 1994 Signed land lease with village corporation
- 1996 Ordered 3 turbines
- 1998 Became an associate Turbine Verification
   Program (TVP) US Department of Energy this helped open doors to research assistance
- 1998 KEA received a Sustainable Technology Energy Program (STEP) grant which purchased 7 more turbines to be tested for cold weather deployment

## KEA Wind Program

- 2002 Installed 1<sup>st</sup> Commercial North Wind 100 kW partly funded by the National Science Foundation for cold weather testing for South Pole deployment
- 2010 KEA awarded State of Alaska Renewable Energy Fund grant leveraged into a \$11 million project using \$3 million Clean Renewable Energy Bond (CREBS) for increased wind capacity and storage
- 2012 Installed 2 EWT 900 kW wind turbines
- Project also used funding we had from other grants to develop the storage component

#### 2,940 KW Potential Wind power



# **Early Project**Construction



# Arctic Foundations



# Tilt Up Towers







### Northwind 100

Northwind 100 installed April 2002

Rated Capacity 100 kW

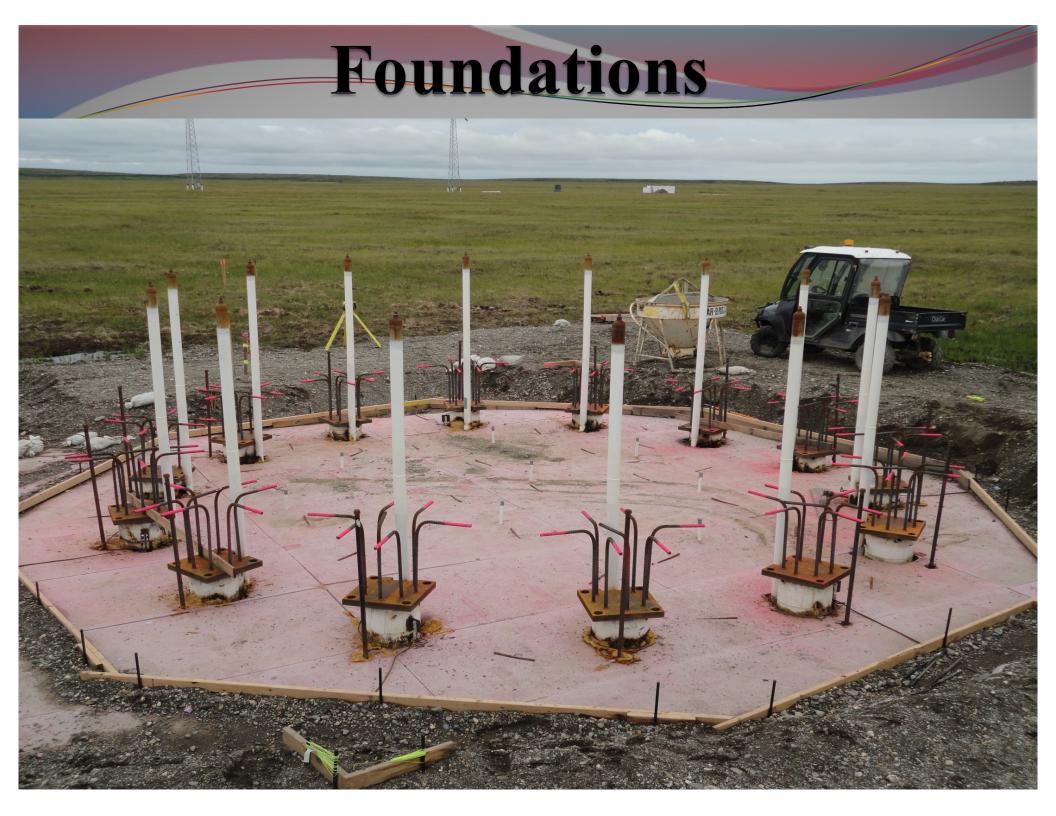






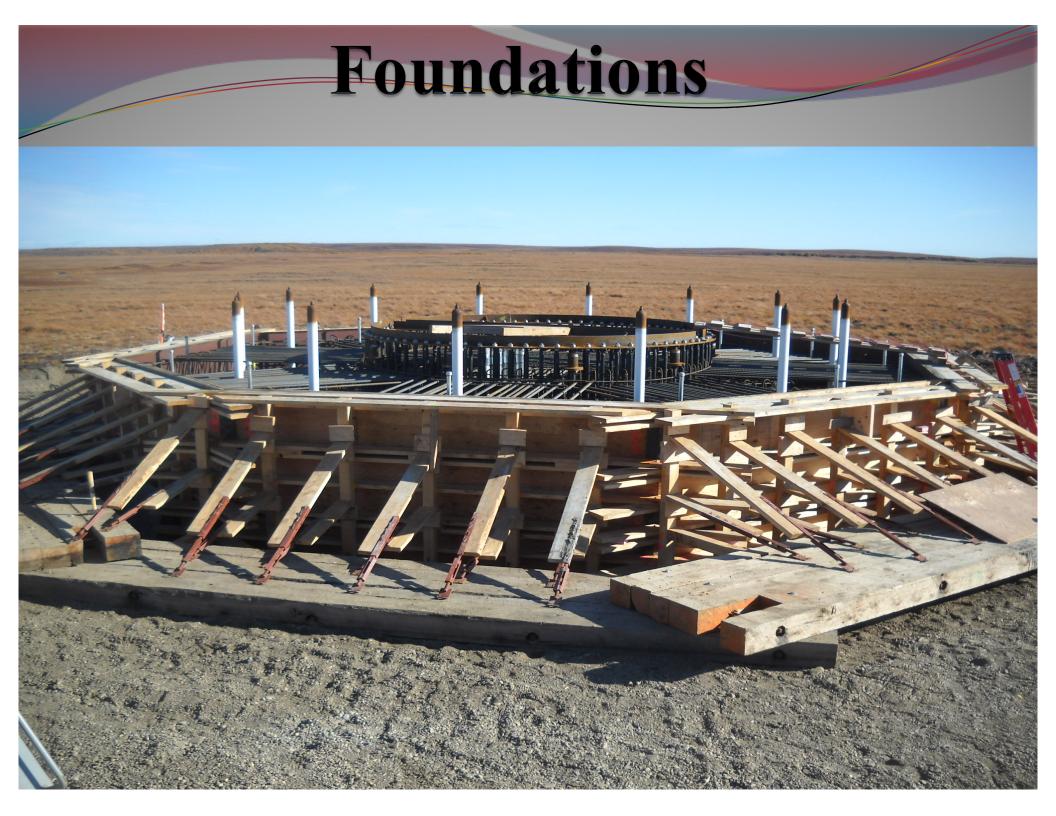
# Foundations

# Foundations

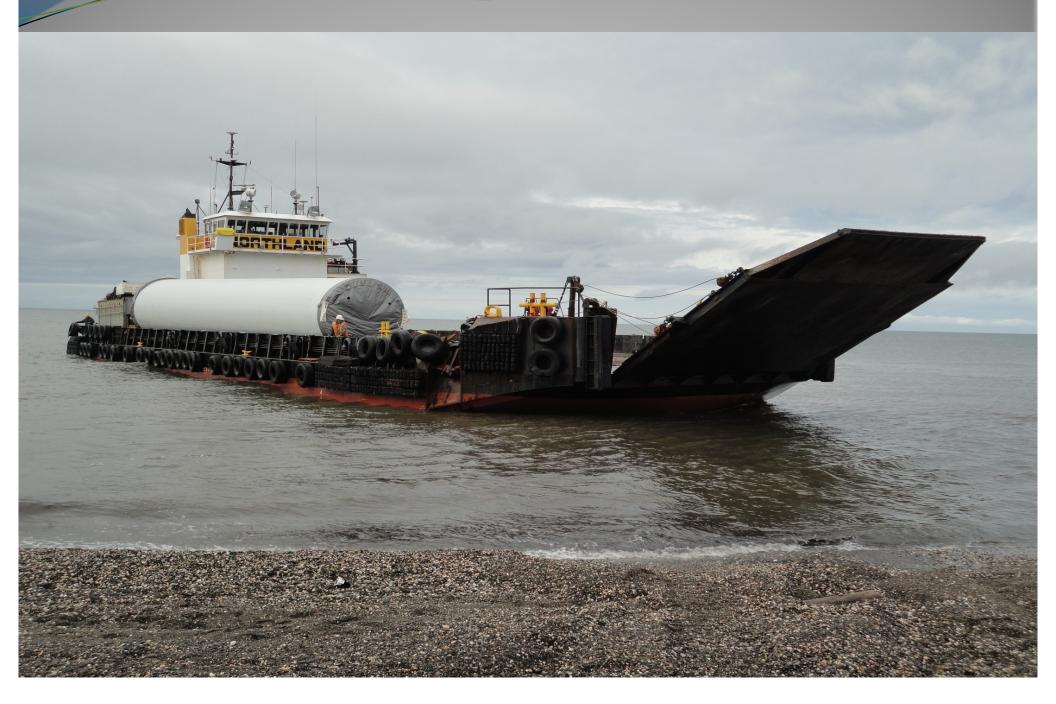


# Foundations





# Logistics





# Construction





# New Turbine Generator







# Saft Extreme Temperature Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

- Commissioned in December 2015
- After 8 years of trying we finally had a functioning battery
- The battery store excess wind energy, reduces outages, and is reducing diesel usage



# Saft Extreme Temperature Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

- The battery acts like another generator and keeps peaking units offline
- We believe the battery will save75-90k gallons annually



# ABB Statcom (provides grid stability)

Allows more wind on system

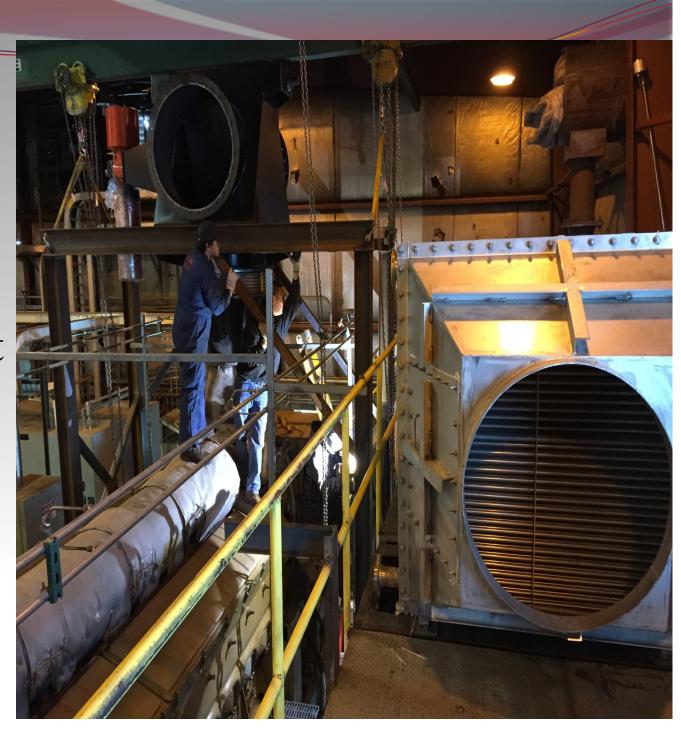
Funded by NRECA/DOE

Smart Grid Grant



# GE Clean Cycle

Uses Exhaust Heat to make power, anticipated reduction in diesel 50,000 gallons per year

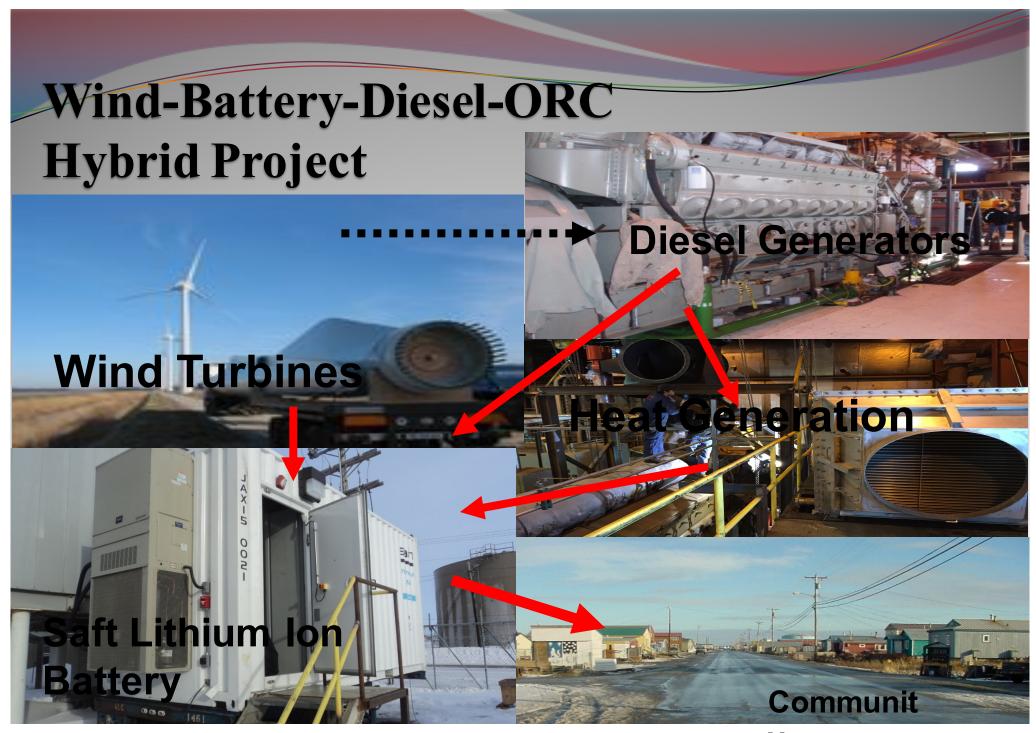


### **Excess Wind Heats Hospital**

500 kVa
Transformer
delivers excess
wind energy to
a thermal boiler
at hospital







# Future Capacity

- Involving our schools
- EducationCurriculum
- Community Involvement
- Sharing Lessons Learned



